

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Rewrite the paragraph that begins at page 4, line 8, as follows:

The object of the invention is attained by an apparatus for producing DLC film-coated plastic containers, which comprises an outer electrode unit disposed outside a plastic container (5), an inner electrode (11) disposed inside the plastic container (5), a ~~degassing vacuum~~ for reducing the inner pressure of the plastic container (5), a gas feeding unit (12, etc.) for feeding a raw material gas of a carbon source into the plastic container (5) having been ~~degassed~~ subjected to a vacuum by a ~~degassing vacuum~~ unit, and a power source unit (8,9) for applying a voltage between the outer electrode unit and the inner electrode (11) with a carbon source gas being fed into the container (5), thereby to generate plasma to form a DLC on the inner surface of the plastic container (5), and in which the outer electrode unit comprises a first outer electrode (4) disposed along the bottom of the plastic container (5), and a second outer electrode (3) disposed along the body of the plastic container (5), and the upper edge of the first outer electrode (4) is positioned below the center between the top and the bottom of the plastic container (5). This apparatus is hereinafter referred to as "apparatus with an outer electrode unit split in two sections". In this aspect of the invention, the outer electrode unit is split into the first outer electrode unit (4) and the second outer electrode (3), by which a suitable level of power can be applied to each site of the container to be coated. In the apparatus with an outer electrode unit split in two sections of the invention, preferably, the power source unit (8,9) applies a higher power to the first outer electrode (4) than to the second outer electrode (3), a DLC film having a suitable thickness can be formed on the entire inner surface of the container (5).

Rewrite the paragraph that begins at page 10, line 14, as follows:

The object of the invention is also attained by providing a DLC film to be formed on the surface of a plastic molding and having a thickness of from 50 to 400Å, a hydrogen content of 39 to 52 hydrogen atomic % and a density of from 1.2 to 1.6g/cm<sup>3</sup>. In this aspect of the invention, the DLC film has a thickness of from 50 to 400Å. In this, therefore, the oxygen transmission rate through the DLC film is effectively reduced, and the transparency of the DLC film-coated plastic molding is well prevented from being reduced owing to the discoloration of the DLC film. In addition, since the DLC film is prevented from being cracked owing to compression stress applied thereto, the oxygen barrier properties of the DLC film-coated plastic molding are well prevented from being degraded. Further, since the time for vapor deposition to form the DLC film is shortened, the productivity of the DLC film-coated plastic molding is improved. ~~Preferably, the DLC film having a thickness of from 50 to 400Å has a hydrogen content of from 16 to 52 hydrogen atomic %, including the preferred embodiment~~

Rewrite the paragraph that begins at page 11, line 6, as follows:

~~The object of the invention is also attained by providing a DLC film to be formed on the surface of a plastic molding and having a hydrogen content of from 39 to 52 hydrogen atomic %.~~

Rewrite the paragraph that begins at page 11, line 13, as follows:

The object of the invention is also attained by providing a plastic container with its inner surface coated with DLC film formed thereon, in which the DLC film has a thickness of 50 to 400Å, a hydrogen content of 39 to 50 hydrogen atomic % and a density of from 1.2 to 1.6 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. In

this aspect of the invention, the DLC film has a thickness of from 50 to 400Å. In this, therefore, the oxygen transmission rate through the DLC film-coated plastic container is effectively reduced, and the transparency of the container is well prevented from being reduced owing to the discoloration of the DLC film. In addition, since the DLC film is prevented from being cracked owing to compression stress applied thereto, the oxygen barrier properties of the DLC film-coated plastic container are well prevented from being degraded. Further, since the time for vapor deposition to form the DLC film is shortened, the productivity of the DLC film-coated plastic container is improved. ~~Of the DLC film-coated plastic containers, preferably, the DLC film has a hydrogen content of from 39 to 52 hydrogen atomic %.~~

Delete the paragraph that begins at page 12, line 6, as follows:

~~— The object of the invention is also attained by providing a DLC film-coated plastic container with its inner surface coated with a DLC film formed thereon, in which the DLC film has a hydrogen content of from 39 to 52 hydrogen atomic %~~

Delete the paragraph that begins at page 12, line 11, as follows:

~~Of the DLC film-coated plastic container with its inner surface coated with a DLC film formed thereon and specifically defined by the thickness and/or the hydrogen content thereof, more preferably, the DLC film formed on the inner surface has a density of from 1.2 to 23. g/cm<sup>3</sup>.~~

paragraph that begins at page 21, line 2, as follows:

Rewrite the paragraph that begins at page 21, line 2, as follows:

In the embodiment mentioned above, the shoulder electrode 2, the body electrode 3 and the bottom electrode 4 are so

constructed in series that they are completely insulated from each other for a direct current to be applied thereto, but the illustrated construction of the outer electrode unit disposition is not limitative. As the case may be, the electrodes may be connected to each other via resistive or capacitive elements or the like therebetween. In short, the necessary level of high-frequency power shall be applied to each outer electrode, depending on the parts of the container to be coated. ~~For example, a plurality of high-frequency oscillators may be prepared and so disposed that they could separately apply a different level of high-frequency power to each electrode of the shoulder electrode 2, the body electrode 3 and the bottom electrode 4.~~ Alternatively, a single high-frequency oscillator may be connected to every electrode separately via a plurality of different matching transformers so that it can impart different levels of high-frequency power to the different electrodes.--

Rewrite the paragraph that begins at page 37, line 4, as follows:

As in Table 6, there is found no significant difference in the density of the DLC films formed on different parts, depending on the high-frequency power applied and on the parts of the PET bottle, and the density of the DLC films falls between 1.2 and 1.6 ~~2.3~~ g/cm<sup>3</sup>.